



# Boise Metro Area

January 2019

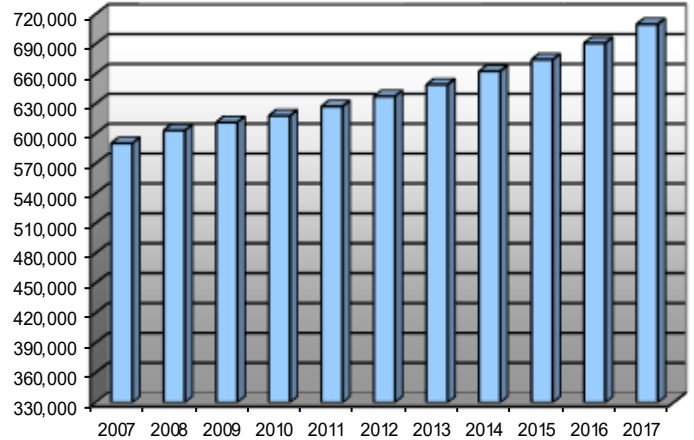
IDAHO  
DEPT. OF LABOR

## Workforce Trends

### Population

The Boise metropolitan area encompasses Ada, Boise, Canyon, Gem and Owyhee counties. The area covers 11,738 square miles, 14.2 percent of the state, and varies from high desert to beautiful forests on rugged mountains to deep river canyons. Forty-one percent of Idahoans live in the metro area. It also holds the state's capital, Boise.

While population growth slowed to 1.1 percent between 2009 and 2010, the growth rate has increased yearly. In 2017 the area ranked as the 7<sup>th</sup> fastest growing metro area nationally. Population growth continued to increase between 2016 and 2017, with a gain of 2.3 percent. This improved growth rate is still considerably below the 2006 rate of 4.3 percent, the highest rate since the early 1990s. Since 2007, the metro area has grown by almost 121,000 or 21 percent. The state's two largest counties —Ada and Canyon — contribute 95 percent of the metro area's 691,423 people.

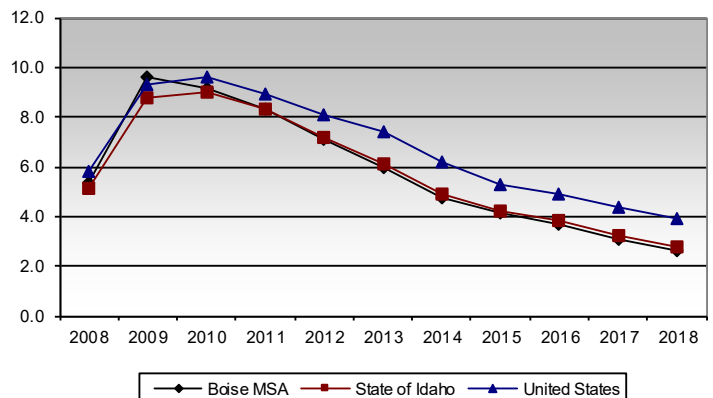


### Labor Force & Employment

The Boise metropolitan area's labor force grew by over 13,000 from 2004 to 2005 before slowing considerably in 2007. The labor force began to regain strength in 2010 and in 2017 it is more than 62,000 or 22 percent above 2005 levels. The unemployment rate also improved to 3 percent in 2017. The 2017 rate is 6.6 percentage points below the record 9.6 percent in 2009.

The area continues to experience a strong recovery and added 10,719 covered jobs in 2017. Construction and manufacturing, which were devastated during the recession, experienced job growth in 2017 but remain below the 2007 level. Professional and business services recorded the largest over the year growth with nearly 2,700 new jobs with all of the sector reporting growth, the largest in office administrative services. Accommodations and food services added 1,300 new jobs in 2017. The number of new hotels and restaurants in the

#### Unemployment Rates



| Labor Force                 | Dec 17  | Dec 18  |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Civilian Labor Force        | 351,866 | 351,866 |
| Total Employment            | 341,978 | 350,959 |
| Unemployed                  | 9,888   | 9,894   |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 2.8     | 2.7     |
| State of Idaho % Unemployed | 3.0     | 2.6     |
| U.S. % Unemployed           | 4.1     | 3.9     |

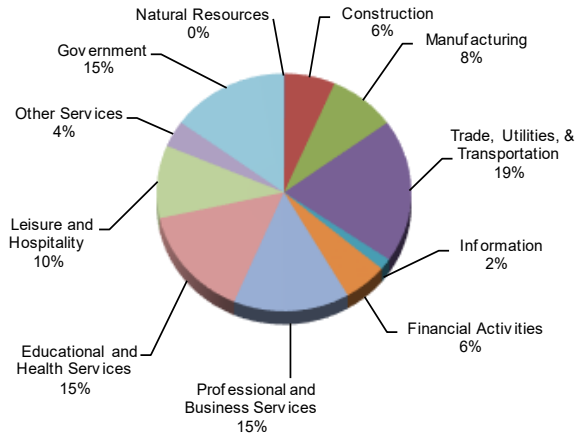
area contributed to the increase in this sector. Employment increased by the nearly 200 in the accommodation sector and 1,100 in the eating and drinking group.

The winner for the most jobs added over the decade though goes to health services, with 11,500 new jobs since 2007. Eating and drinking came in second with an additional 5,400 jobs. This group accounted for 80 percent of the growth in leisure and hospitality.

Information service experienced decreases both year over year and over the last decade. The loss was in the print sector.

| Labor Force                 | 2008    | 2009    | 2010    | 2011    | 2012    | 2013    | 2014    | 2015    | 2016    | 2017    | 2018    |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Civilian Labor Force        | 295,413 | 296,317 | 297,428 | 301,302 | 306,791 | 309,595 | 316,160 | 323,780 | 334,300 | 345,643 | 356,315 |
| Unemployment                | 15,892  | 28,400  | 27,313  | 25,085  | 21,768  | 18,361  | 15,044  | 13,440  | 12,208  | 10,562  | 9,409   |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 5.4     | 9.6     | 9.2     | 8.3     | 7.1     | 5.9     | 4.8     | 4.2     | 3.7     | 3.1     | 2.6     |
| Employment                  | 279,521 | 267,917 | 270,116 | 276,217 | 285,023 | 291,234 | 301,116 | 310,340 | 322,092 | 335,081 | 346,906 |

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2017



## Per Capita Income, Nonfarm Jobs & Wages

The Boise metro area's per capita income continued its climb in 2017 to \$43,606, growing 3.1 percent over the previous year. This put the metro area 4 percent over the state but only 84 percent of national per capita income.

Per capita income is calculated as the total personal income of the residents of the county divided by the population of the county. In this case the total personal income of the four counties is divided by the total population of the counties. Per capita income for each county in the metro area is: Ada—\$49,900; Boise—\$43,549; Canyon—\$31,370; Gem—\$36,225 and Owyhee—\$36,410. It is evident that Ada County has the largest impact on the metro's per capita income due to its large population and personal income of \$22,796,904. Although Canyon County has one of the largest populations in the state, the total personal income is only \$6,797,955.

## Major Private Employers

|                                       |
|---------------------------------------|
| Albertsons                            |
| Amalgamated Sugar                     |
| Blue Cross of Idaho Health Services   |
| DirecTV                               |
| Fred Meyer                            |
| Hewlett Packard                       |
| Idaho Power Co.                       |
| J R Simplot                           |
| Micron Technology, Inc.               |
| Century Link                          |
| St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center |
| St. Lukes Health Systems              |
| Wal-Mart                              |
| WDS Global                            |

| City MSA                               | Occupational W | Entry Wage | Median Wage |
|--|----------------|------------|-------------|
| Medical Assistants                     |                | \$12.97    | \$15.82     |
| Waiters and Waitresses                 |                | \$8.34     | \$8.90      |
| Structural Metal Fabricators & Fitters |                | \$12.43    | \$16.27     |
| Customer Service Representatives       |                | \$11.64    | \$14.67     |
| Electricians                           |                | \$15.18    | \$22.85     |
| Construction Laborers                  |                | \$10.59    | \$14.52     |
| Team Assemblers                        |                | \$9.19     | \$11.65     |
| Registered Nurse                       |                | \$24.97    | \$31.80     |
| Exec Secretaries & Admin Assistants    |                | \$15.11    | \$21.82     |
| Welders                                |                | \$11.90    | \$16.09     |
| Retail Salespersons                    |                | \$8.41     | \$10.93     |

\* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor website at [lmi.idaho.gov](http://lmi.idaho.gov).

| Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 2007, 2016 & 2017 | 2007               |               | 2016               |               | 2017               |               |
|---|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
|   | Average Employment | Average Wages | Average Employment | Average Wages | Average Employment | Average Wages |
| <b>Total Covered Wages</b>  | 277,352            | \$37,553      | 295,568            | \$43,288      | 306,287            | \$45,362      |
| <b>Agriculture</b>  | 4,697              | \$25,815      | 5,605              | \$32,147      | 5,646              | \$33,761      |
| <b>Mining</b>   | 225                | \$48,568      | 154                | \$62,721      | 179                | \$71,079      |
| <b>Construction</b>   | 22,877             | \$43,117      | 18,649             | \$44,252      | 20,474             | \$45,322      |
| <b>Manufacturing</b>  | 31,056             | \$55,340      | 25,568             | \$68,011      | 27,152             | \$80,861      |
| <b>Trade, Utilities &amp; Transportation</b>                            | 53,950             | \$33,568      | 57,934             | \$41,518      | 59,330             | \$42,497      |
| <b>Information</b>  | 4,669              | \$45,065      | 4,491              | \$50,956      | 4,218              | \$52,690      |
| <b>Financial Activities</b>   | 14,152             | \$45,387      | 14,832             | \$58,620      | 15,323             | \$59,440      |
| <b>Professional and Business Services</b>                               | 40,579             | \$45,387      | 41,828             | \$44,315      | 44,587             | \$46,639      |
| <b>Educational and Health Services</b>                                  | 32,683             | \$37,435      | 44,739             | \$45,742      | 44,765             | \$45,154      |
| <b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>  | 25,027             | \$13,406      | 30,254             | \$16,310      | 31,863             | \$16,917      |
| <b>Other Services</b>   | 7,207              | \$24,549      | 7,996              | \$28,728      | 8,234              | \$30,512      |
| <b>Government</b>   | 40,230             | \$37,692      | 43,520             | \$43,976      | 44,516             | \$45,409      |

| Per Capita Income     | 2008     | 2009     | 2010     | 2011     | 2012     | 2013     | 2014     | 2015     | 2016     | 2017     |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>Boise MSA</b>      | \$34,476 | \$32,897 | \$33,524 | \$34,807 | \$36,485 | \$37,525 | \$39,416 | \$41,366 | \$42,210 | \$43,606 |
| <b>State of Idaho</b> | \$32,646 | \$31,142 | \$31,921 | \$33,503 | \$35,187 | \$36,167 | \$37,792 | \$39,780 | \$40,508 | \$41,826 |
| <b>United States</b>  | \$40,904 | \$39,284 | \$40,545 | \$42,727 | \$44,582 | \$44,826 | \$47,025 | \$48,940 | \$49,831 | \$51,640 |

Information provided by Bureau Economic Analysis

This area is served by the Idaho Department of Labor offices listed below:

219 W. Main St.  
Boise, ID 83735 Ph: (208) 332-3575

205 E. Watertower Lane  
Meridian, ID 83642-6282 Ph: (208) 364-7785